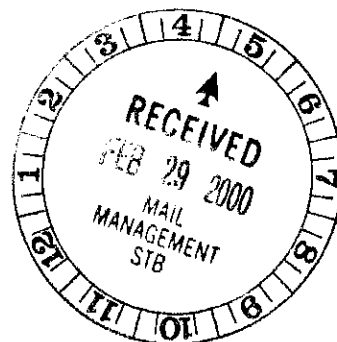


197285

BEFORE THE  
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD  
FEB 29 2000  
Part of  
Public Record  
EX PARTE NO. 582



PUBLIC VIEWS ON MAJOR RAIL CONSOLIDATIONS

---

STATEMENT OF EDWARD CLEMENTE

My name is Edward Clemente. I am the President of the Southern Wayne County Chamber of Commerce. Our offices are located at 20600 Eureka Road, Suite 315, Taylor, Michigan 48180-5306. I have worked with the Chamber for 12 years. Prior to that, I served as a legislative aide to Michigan Senator James DeSana, who currently serves as Director at the Michigan Department of Transportation.

The Southern Wayne County Chamber of Commerce represents the business interests in Michigan's downriver community, including the cities of Allen Park, Belleville, Brownstown, Ecorse, Flat Rock, Gibraltar, Grosse Ile, Huron Township, Lincoln Park, Melvindale, River Rouge, Riverview, Rockwood, Romulus, Southgate, Sumpter Township, Taylor, Trenton, Van Buren Township, Woodhaven and Wyandotte.

Our members include Chrysler, Ford and General Motors and a wide range of auto industry suppliers, as well as other important Michigan businesses such as Ameritech, AAA, BASF, Co-op Services Credit Union, Comerica Bank, Detroit Edison, Great Lakes Division National Steel, MASCO Corporation, Michigan Consolidated Gas Co., Solutia, and U of M Dearborn Center for Corp. and Professional Development.

The Southern Wayne County Chamber of Commerce promotes the interests of its members at the city, state and federal government levels. Our role is to support a fertile business climate and as such we recognize the importance of transportation to Michigan's economy and economic development. I am here today to support a fair and timely process for the CN/BNSF combination, which is clearly in the best interest of the Southern Wayne County Chamber of Commerce members.